

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please delete the present Abstract and replace with the following:

A seed tape includes successively arranged germinating units including at least one carrier strip and at least one auxiliary layer of biodegradable, flexible, non-woven or film-like material arranged on the carrier strip, whereby the auxiliary layer is locally interrupted a short distance along the seed tape, and whereby each germinating unit includes a mixture of granulated carrier, at least one granulated additive and an adjuvant in addition to one or more seeds. The mixture plus the seed(s) are kept together to form at least one core portion including an incision, in the germinating unit, and whereby the seed tape can be cut into separate germinating units prior to irrigation and/or bedding out, the core portion made of the mixture including locally adhered fibers of one or more thermoplastic materials which form a coherent, open network for keeping the granules of the mixture together. The fibers of one or more thermoplastic materials which form the network are bicomponent fibers, and the seed or seeds is/are placed in the incision in the core portion, the incision being of a depth of 25 to 50% of a thickness of the core portion. An outer component of each bicomponent fiber is made of polylactide (derived from lactic acid) (PLA) having a relatively low melting point, whereas an inner component of the fiber is made of polylactide (derived from lactic acid) (PLA) having a relatively high melting point.